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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER

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1 1. (Currently amended) An apparatus, comprising:
2 a control component that comprises an interface usable by an administrator to
3 designate one or more tones and one or more announcements that are playable in a
4 communication session as interruptible, wherein the one or more tones designated as
5 interruptible comprise a) ring back tones, b) audible alerting tones, c) congestion tones,
6 d) reorder tones, e) call waiting tones, f) barge in tones, g) denial tone bursts, h)
7 incoming additional call tones, and i) priority additional call tones ~~are not limited to dial~~
8 ~~tone information streams.~~

1 2. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the administrator
2 employs the interface to dynamically designate a tone as interruptible, and wherein the
3 tone is playable at a communication device; and
4 wherein the control component stops playing the tone at the communication
5 device without playing the tone to completion upon receipt of an interruption request
6 from a user of the communication device.

1 3. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the administrator
2 comprises a service provider associated with the communication device; and
3 wherein the service provider may customize a tone ~~and/or~~ and announcement
4 service for the communication device by employing the interface to designate the one or
5 more tones ~~and/or~~ and the one or more announcements as interruptible and one or
6 more other tones ~~and/or~~ and one or more other announcements as not interruptible.

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1 4. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the user presses a
2 button on the communication device to initiate an interruption of the tone; and
3 wherein the control component interprets the button press as the interruption
4 request, wherein the control component stops playing the tone at the communication
5 device based on the button press.

1 5. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the control component
2 plays the tone at the communication device in a communication session; and
3 wherein the user of the communication device sends the interruption request to
4 the control component to skip a remainder of the tone and progress to a next phase in
5 the communication session; and
6 wherein upon receipt of the interruption request, the control component moves to
7 the next phase in the communication session.

1 6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control component comprises
2 a mobile switching center.

1 7. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising a
2 configuration database that stores one or more indications associated with the one or
3 more tones and the one or more announcements that are designated by the
4 administrator as interruptible.

1 8. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the administrator
2 employs the interface to set the one or more indications in the configuration database to

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3 represent that the one or more tones and the one or more announcements are
4 interruptible.

1 9. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein upon receipt of an
2 instruction to play a tone at a communication device, the mobile switching center
3 accesses the configuration database to determine whether the tone is indicated as
4 interruptible or not interruptible; and

5 wherein the mobile switching center plays the tone at the communication device.

1 10. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein upon receipt of an
2 interruption request from a user of the communication device, the mobile switching
3 center stops playing the tone at the communication device if the tone is indicated as
4 interruptible; and

5 wherein upon receipt of the interruption request from the user of the
6 communication device, the mobile switching center continues playing the tone at the
7 communication device if the tone is indicated as not interruptible.

1 11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the mobile switching center
2 comprises the interface to allow the administrator to update one or more of the one or
3 more indications from a representation of interruptible to a representation of not
4 interruptible.

1 12. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control
2 component allows the administrator to set a designation of a tone as interruptible, and
3 wherein the control component allows the administrator to change the designation of the

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4 tone to prevent interruption of the tone.

1 13. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the one or more
2 tones and the one or more announcements that are playable in the communication
3 session comprise audible signals in a telephone call.

1 14. (Currently amended) A method, comprising the step of:
2 interfacing an administrator with a configuration database to allow the
3 administrator to designate in the configuration database one or more tones and one or
4 more announcements that are playable in a communication session as interruptible,
5 wherein the one or more tones designated as interruptible comprise a) ring back tones,
6 b) audible alerting tones, c) congestion tones, d) reorder tones, e) call waiting tones, f)
7 barge in tones, g) denial tone bursts, h) incoming additional call tones, and i) priority
8 additional call tones are not limited to dial tone information streams.

1 15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the administrator
2 comprises a service provider associated with a communication device, and wherein the
3 step of interfacing the administrator with the configuration database to allow the
4 administrator to designate in the configuration database the one or more tones and the
5 one or more announcements that are playable in the communication session as
6 interruptible further comprises the steps of:
7 allowing the service provider to modify the configuration database to customize a
8 tone ~~and/or~~ and announcement service for the communication device; and
9 allowing access to the configuration database for the service provider to
10 designate the one or more tones ~~and/or~~ and the one or more announcements as

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11 interruptible and one or more other tones ~~and/or~~ and one or more other announcements
12 as not interruptible.

1 16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the administrator
2 dynamically designates a tone of the one or more tones as interruptible, and wherein
3 the tone comprises an audible signal in a telephone call, the method further comprising
4 the steps of:

5 playing the tone at the communication device; and

6 stopping the playing of the tone at the communication device before completion
7 of the tone upon receipt of an interruption request from a user of the communication
8 device.

1 17. (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

2 accessing the configuration database, upon receipt of an instruction to play a
3 tone at a communication device, to determine whether the tone is indicated in the
4 configuration database as interruptible or not interruptible; and

5 playing the tone at the communication device.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the steps of:

2 stopping the playing of the tone at the communication device upon receipt of an
3 interruption request from a user of the communication device if the tone is indicated as
4 interruptible; and

5 continuing to play the tone at the communication device upon receipt of the
6 interruption request from the user of the communication device if the tone is indicated
7 as not interruptible.

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1 19. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, further comprising the steps of:
 2 interfacing the administrator with the configuration database to allow the
 3 administrator access to the configuration database for an update of a designation of one
 4 or more of the one or more tones ~~and/or~~ and the one or more announcements from a
 5 representation of interruptible to a representation of not interruptible; and
 6 preventing an interruption of the one or more of the one or more tones ~~and/or~~
 7 and the one or more announcements with the representation of not interruptible.

1 20. (Currently amended) An article, comprising:
 2 one or more computer-readable signal-bearing media; and
 3 means in the one or more media for interfacing an administrator with a
 4 configuration database to allow the administrator to designate in the configuration
 5 database one or more tones and one or more announcements that are playable in a
 6 communication session as interruptible, wherein the one or more tones designated as
 7 interruptible comprise a) ring back tones, b) audible alerting tones, c) congestion tones,
 8 d) reorder tones, e) call waiting tones, f) barge in tones, g) denial tone bursts, h)
 9 incoming additional call tones, and i) priority additional call tones ~~are not limited to dial~~
 10 ~~tone information streams.~~